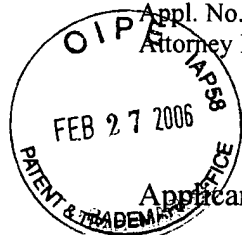


PATENT

Appl. No. 09/937,463

Attorney Docket No. 450101-02950



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants : FUKUDA, Kei *et al.*

Appl. No. : 09/937,463

Filed : September 24, 2001

Title : **INFORMATION PROCESSING APPARATUS AND PROCESSING METHOD, AND PROGRAM STORAGE**

Art Unit : 2178

Examiner : HUYNH, Cong Lac T.

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Prior to the issuance of the first office action in the above-identified application after the entry of the accompanying Request for Continued Examination, please amend this application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 8.